



Mansfield – Woodhouse Adventist Church 1
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News Letter 5/27-1-22

Greetings and salutations to you. It's been a rather nice and sunny day today, for which I am very grateful to God.

I was on WhatsApp sharing with our Church Clerk the good news that all is well with my DBS search and in conversation, I mentioned that I was drinking a certain hot beverage in a mug that Vickie bought some time ago that proclaimed "Cake in a Mug". Vera being Vera decided to challenge me to make a "cake in a mug." And so I did. And this is what it looked like throughout the making.



What amazed me was not so much the taste but the speed at which it was accomplished. This was my first (and probably only – I'm not a great fan of Cup-cakes) attempt and it took less than ten minutes to make it. The cook time was three Minutes! A three-minute cake. Who'd of thought it.

But should it be a surprise? We live at a time of instants. Some of a certain age might remember the advert "For mash get smash", as instant mashed potato became available, just add hot water – thank you very much, and there you are. Just add your veggie sausages and you have sausage and mash.

Once upon a time if we wanted to buy something we would save for it no matter how long it took. So few will do that now. The "Buy now pay later" mantra prevails.

We are all aware of the instant communication networks that are available, so much so that we can pick up a phone and speak to a friend or a family member in any part of the world that has the appropriate receiving equipment.

And yet we are encouraged to have patience. Remember the words of Paul in Romans 15:4-6? For whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have

hope. ⁵ Now may the God of patience and comfort grant you to be like-minded toward one another, according to Christ Jesus, ⁶ that you may with one mind *and* one mouth glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

1 Tim 6:11 ... pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, gentleness.

And which of us can forget the words of Rev. 14:12; Here is the patience of the saints; here *are* those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus.

The world seems to be focused on having tomorrow's portions today. But for the Christian, surely our viewpoint should be; Psalm 27: ¹⁴ Wait on the Lord; Be of good courage, And He shall strengthen your heart; Wait, I say, on the Lord!

I realize that as Seventh-day Adventists we have been preaching and teaching the imminent return of our Lord.

Even before entering Pastoral Ministry as an intern in 1985, I was sharing with my Church congregation the nearness of Christ's return as a Lay preacher, and we are still waiting for that glad day. But none can guarantee the next heartbeat, and the reality is that Jesus is only a heartbeat away. And so we wait and we are promised that Isaiah 40: ³¹ ... those who wait on the Lord Shall renew *their* strength; They shall mount up with wings like eagles, They shall run and not be weary, They shall walk and not faint.

I am holding to the certainty of His promise for as Habakkuk 2: ² ... the Lord answered me and said: "Write the vision And make *it* plain on tablets, That he may run who reads it. ³ For the vision *is* yet for an appointed time; But at the end it will speak, and it will not lie. Though it tarries, wait for it; Because it will surely come, It will not tarry.

I leave you with these words; "Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares *us*, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, ² looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of *our* faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God." Hebrews 12:1-3.

I really enjoyed being at Church last Sabbath. We had a great Sabbath School study; Aaron and Moses shared the Sermon with me. The Primary Children closed the Sermon with songs that underpinned the subject of the Sermon, and in the afternoon I had the joy of baptising young Josiah Francis from Nottingham Central. It really was a wonderful day of fellowship and thanksgiving.

We were saddened mid-week with the news that our brother David Downer died. He is now asleep in the Lord. I was able to meet with his daughter Claire Thursday together with Brother Mason who is helping Claire to empty David's house.

Daniel has asked that we pray for his Uncle Jozef Skowronek who is seriously ill, please remember him.

Sis. Mary Banda shared with us on Tuesday; "My brother Frank('s) Tumour has shrunk after Chemo and Radiotherapy. Next stage is operation scheduled for 23rd February for either reversible or permanent Stoma. We need your continued prayers please. Please continue to pray for him.

I know that there are many others in need of our prayers. Although their names are not listed here you know who they are and God certainly does. Let's keep praying.

There are still a few DBS clearances to complete, if you are one who needs to speak with Vera, please help us by doing so.

Our Church Board will be meeting Sunday 30/01/22 @ 0900 hrs to discuss the Budget.

The Church will be meeting on 12/02/22 after Sabbath to review the Budget proposals and decide their merit.

The Round Table Café continues to serve our Community friends, and many more ideas are being proposed by Sue in an effort to make friends for Jesus, as is other department leaders.

Please continue to pray for the Church members as we strive to meet our Mission and our Vision under the direction of the Holy Spirit.

And finally. The King of kings descends upon the cloud, wrapped in flaming fire. The heavens are rolled together as a scroll, the earth trembles before Him, and every mountain and island is moved out of its place. "Our God shall come, and shall not keep silence: a fire shall devour before Him, and it shall be very tempestuous round about Him. He shall call to the heavens from above, and to the earth, that He may judge His people." Psalm 5:3-4 White, Ellen G. *The Great Controversy* (Pacific Press Publishing Association: 1950) pp 641-642.

Sabbath Services begin at 10:00 – Sabbath School followed by our Family Service. This week our Speaker will be Pastor Dan Dachin.

All are welcome. Do join us.